

A silent chain and sprocket assembly is disclosed for use with a chain tensioner that provides driving contact on both sides of the chain and improved system wear, noise and vibration characteristics without adding to the chain's weight or material costs. The front-side sprockets employ sprocket teeth and engage the front-side silent chain links in conventional fashion. The back-side driven sprockets differ from prior silent chain sprockets in that the sprockets employ small protrusions instead of traditional teeth. The silent chain engages a back-side sprocket protrusion using the geometry of either a single link, or that of two adjacent links, as the chain wraps on the back-side sprocket.